UNITED NATIONS **E**

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.17/ISWG.II/1994/1
9 February 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
Intersessional Ad Hoc Open-Ended Working Group on Finance
28 February-2 March 1994

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

2. Overview of financial resources and mechanisms in the context of chapter 33 of Agenda 21 and in accordance with decision F adopted by the Commission on Sustainable Development at its first session.

3. Ways and means of increasing the effectiveness of the use of existing financial resources and of mobilizing new and additional resources from all sources:

   (a) Consideration of international policy instruments such as debt relief, terms of trade, commodity prices, market access and private foreign investment as well as to review mechanisms for innovative financing in the context of paragraph 33.16 of Agenda 21;

   (b) Consideration of national policy instruments;

   (c) Specific experiences and initiatives in the sectors under review.

4. Requirements, availability and adequacy of financial resources and mechanisms in the sectors under review: assessment and methodological questions.

5. Specific policy options for the mobilization of financial resources towards a balanced implementation of all aspects of Agenda 21 under consideration by the Commission on Sustainable Development in 1994, in the light of the discussion of the above items.

6. Other matters.

7. Adoption of the report of the Working Group.

Annotations

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

At its first session, the Commission on Sustainable Development decided to establish an intersessional, ad hoc, open-ended working group composed of Governments that will nominate experts in order to assist the Commission in the following tasks:

(a) To monitor and review the requirements, availability and adequacy of financial resources for the implementation of different clusters of Agenda 21, taking into account the multi-year thematic programme of work, as well as projects, programmes, activities and sustainable development strategies prepared by Governments, in order to provide a suitable and common basis for action on the part of all Governments, bilateral funding agencies and States members of the governing bodies of the agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as multilateral regional and subregional development banks and funds dealing with the issues of environment and development;

(b) To monitor and analyse various factors that influence the flow of financial and economic resources, such as debt relief, terms of trade, commodity prices, market access and private foreign investment, as well as to review mechanisms for innovative financing in the context of paragraph 33.16 of Agenda 21, taking into account activities at the national level;

(c) To develop, on the basis of the above, a policy framework for the mobilization of financial resources towards a balanced implementation of all aspects of Agenda 21 that would, inter alia, assist Governments, where appropriate, to implement their sustainable development strategies (E/1993/25/Add.1, para. 61).

The Commission called on its Bureau to coordinate the work of the Working Group, as well as the inputs to its work from other experts in relevant fields. The Commission requested the Secretary-General to provide, within existing resources, support to the above-mentioned Working Group (E/1993/25/Add.1, para. 62).

Furthermore, it was agreed that the Commission would decide on the agenda and procedures for the Working Group, which will report its findings to the Commission (E/1993/25/Add.1, para. 63).

Pursuant to those decisions, the Bureau, in developing the present provisional agenda, has held consultations with all States members of the Commission and has considered inputs from several sources.

The Working Group, after the election of its officers, will adopt its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda.

Items 2 to 5

Documentation

Overview of current issues and developments with regard to financial resources and mechanisms (chapter 33 of Agenda 21), covering items 2, 3 (a) and 3(b) of the present provisional agenda (E/CN.17/ISWG.II/1994/2)

Four background papers on the financing of sectoral clusters (i.e., health, human settlements freshwater, toxic chemicals and hazardous wastes), covering items 3 (c) and 4 of the present provisional agenda

Item 6. Other matters

Item 7. Adoption of the report of the Working Group

In accordance with the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its first session, the Working Group will report on its findings to the Commission at its second session.